

Torrance, California
January 31, 1950

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 8:20 p.m., Tuesday, January 31, 1950, Mayor Sherfey presiding.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those responding being: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

This being an Adjourned Regular Meeting, Mayor Sherfey announced the regular order of business would be dispensed with.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

The following correspondence was read by Clerk Bartlett:

Letter from the 3rd District Dental Society asking that February 6, 1950, be declared Children's Dental Health Day. So moved by Councilman Powell, seconded by Councilman Jackson, and unanimously carried.

Letter from Margaret Hormell, 1657 W. 218th St., asking that the City do something about the papers and rubbish blown into her yard from the auto court on 218th and Western. Councilman Jackson moved the communication be referred to Chief Stroh for proper handling. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Optimist Club requesting use of the Auditorium for the presentation of wrestling bouts one night a month. Councilman Powell moved the matter be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

City Manager Stevens reported on his investigation of the library situation and suggested that the City remain in the County system. Councilman Haggard moved that the City Manager take the matter up with the gentleman with whom he has been corresponding and advise him the City would enter into a contract for another year at the rate specified. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale read a letter relative to the drainage problem due to location of Palos Verdes Hills and moved the communication be filed and the matter turned over to the City Manager for his recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced another name had been submitted to him as a nomination to fill the vacancy on the Civil Service Board -- Leonard B. Babcock. Councilman Powell moved that inasmuch as four names have been submitted, they should all be considered and appointment deferred to the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Councilman Drale also asked about the member of the Civil Service Board who has not been attending meetings, stating he thought the chair should be declared vacant. Mayor Sherfey replied he had received no communication from the Board advising of the non-attendance of the member. Mr. Downing and Mr. Desmond, members of the Board in the audience, advised the gentleman had missed two or three meetings and that formal communication would be made to the Council following a check of the attendance record.

Councilman Powell advised he had received an oral request from the Tahlola Club for the use of the Girl Scout's Hut one night a week for sewing and stated he would like the matter to be handled by the City Manager.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Beesley, of Walteria, stated that his group had come to the meeting to hear a discussion of the matters proposed for the April ballot. Discussion followed, with Councilman Powell stating the matters to be submitted by the Council were (1) the bond issue for the swimming pool, (2) the ward system of councilmanic districts, (3) giving our Court civil jurisdiction, and (4) adjusting the salary of the City Treasurer. Mr. Beesley said that the Walteria people objected to being divided into two districts and reason for the division was explained by Clerk Bartlett. Mr. George Downing inquired if one of the proposed ballot issues which Mr. Powell had not mentioned was the paying of salaries to the Councilmen. Commander Mason asked if more than five councilmen could be elected and City Attorney Smith advised an increase in the number of councilmen would necessitate an amendment to the Charter. Mr. Beesley again took the floor urging that the paying of salaries to Councilmen be put on the ballot. He was supported by Commander Mason. Further discussion followed.

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Councilman Drale asked for clarification of the swimming pool bond issue by members of the Pool Committee. Mr. Gotts and Mr. Hanks both took the floor advising that such a recommendation had been made at the time the scale model of the proposed pool was submitted to the Council.

City Attorney Smith informed the Council that matters which they wished to have placed on the ballot would have to be covered by ordinance. Discussion followed, resulting in a motion by Councilman Powell, at 9:08 p.m., that the meeting be adjourned to Tuesday, February 7, 1950, at 8:00 p.m., for the purpose of hearing suggested proposals for the ballot from the citizens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE